

Croome Collection Coventry Family History

Gilbert Coventry, 8th Baron Coventry and 4th Earl of Coventry

Born 1668, the fourth son of Thomas (5th Baron) and his first wife, Winifrida. He succeeded as Baron and Earl in 1712 after the death of his nephew, aged 44. Gilbert married his first wife Dorothy Keyte, daughter of Sir William Keyte, 22nd Baronet of Ebrington, Gloucestershire, in November 1694. Together they had a daughter, Anne, who later married Sir William Carew, 5th Baronet of Antony, Cornwall. After the death of Dorothy, he remarried to Anne, daughter of Sir Streinsham, Knight, of Worcestershire. Gilbert was quite extravagant with his family's money and only served to worsen the financial difficulties that were arising at this time. Gilbert died 27th October 1719. As he left no male issue, with his death the Barony of Coventry became extinct. The Earldom and the greater part of the estates devolved upon William Coventry, the lineal descent of Walter Coventry, brother to the 1st Lord Coventry, according to the limitation of the patent. Some of the Coventry archives went to Antony, in Cornwall with Gilbert's daughter, where they remain to this day.